GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5368
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2000
TRADE WITH SOVIET UNION
DILEEP SANGHANI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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(a) the annual trade between India and the erstwhile Soviet Union before its disintegration and during 1999-2000. (

(b) whether it has decreased or increased; (

(c) if decreased the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase trade with erstwhile Soviet Union ?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) The value of trade between India and erstwhile Soviet Union during 1990-91 was Rs. 7803 crores. For the year 1999-2000,the trade data is available only for the period April to December. During this period the total trade between India and the countries of erstwhile Soviet Union was Rs. 6301.33 crores. However, during the year 1998-99 the total trade between India and the countries of erstwhile Soviet Union was Rs. 6403.26 crores.

(b & c) The trade volume in the year 1998-99 as compared to 1990-91 has declined. The reasons for decline are economic decline in these countries, restrictions on repatriation of currency, inadequate banking facilities, lack of basic infrastructure. etc.

(d) The Government has initiated several measures for boosting trade with the countries of erstwhile Soviet Union. These measures include regular review of trade between India and these countries through meetings of Joint Commissions, Working Groups and Joint business councils, encouraging consignment sales , broad - basing the basket of tradable goods, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions and exchange of delegations etc.